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1. During the period 1948 to 1950, the Chinese Communist Party's policy was generally one of expansion, and to this end the conditions of membership were made relatively simple. Theoretically, to become a member one had to possess the following five qualities: strong political convictions, ability to work hard, popularity with the masses, organizing ability, and an unblemished political past. In practice, all who were willing to work hard were admitted and membership increased on a rapid scale. It is estimated that about two million persons were enrolled during this period, most of them still known as "new members", with a majority of intellectuals.
2. This influx from such suspect strata of the population as land-owners, small urban property owners, and university intellectuals, caused the old members some misgivings, with the result that at the end of 1950 the Central Committee convened a meeting of the heads of all regional committees, and instructed them to stop the indiscriminate enrollment of new members. Many of the new members were ejected, and the few who were admitted to the Party were subject to examination and research into their background, conducted by the district secretariats and approved by the higher Party committees. The aim of the above measure was to obtain a predominantly working-class membership. The only members of the population who were granted ready admittance were industrial workers and volunteers for the Korean Army.

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3. In the spring of 1951, following the meeting mentioned above, the Central Committee issued an eight-item directive regarding the admission of new members. The most significant of these eight items was a clause requiring all new members to pledge unlimited support to the Party in the struggle for world revolution. Further points were as follows:
 - a. Applicants for admission should be introduced by two full members, examined by the district secretariat, and approved by the area committee. Former members of other parties should be introduced by two full members of more than three years' standing, accompanied by a formal renunciation of allegiance to their old party. Ex-members of the Kuomintang should be introduced directly to the Provincial Party Committee and accepted only with the approval of the Central Committee, although in practice few, if any, of this latter category were approved or even considered.
 - b. The probationary period for workers and peasants should be six months; for land owners and small urban property owners, from one to three years.
 - c. Party members serving on district committees must have had full membership of at least three years; those serving on hsien committees must be of at least five years' standing; and members of provincial committees must have a background of at least eight years' full membership.
 - d. All members who are transferred from one Party organization to another must be introduced by their original organization. Members who are thus transferred must bring with them a record sheet from their original organizations, and cadres who seek transfer must accompany their application with a letter of reference from their secretariat.
 - e. All members are obliged to participate fully in all activities, such as discussion meetings and lectures organized by their representative organizations. Failure to do so results in the cancellation of membership.
 - f. Every member is required to attend at least once a week the so-called Party Day which, under the guidance of top-level cadres, is devoted to lectures on such topics as the history of the Party, cultural subjects, current events, politics, and economics. In addition, discussion groups must be convened at least once a week to enable members to indulge in criticism and self-criticism.
 - g. Party members may marry only with the approval of their Party committee. Battalion cadre members are expected to marry members of the Youth Corps or, dependant on their age, full Party members.
 - h. All underground workers must change their names for security reasons; senior members of this category may contact their juniors, who, however, are kept in ignorance of their seniors' place of residence and are not allowed to visit them.
4. While ridding itself of the elements mentioned above, the Party is making an effort to enroll those poor peasants and hired farm laborers who, having benefited by agrarian reform, are likely to be solid members for the future. It is the general policy to carry out membership drives in all districts where agrarian reform has been completed. Persons who have participated actively in the 3-anti's and 5-anti's campaigns are also being admitted, and simultaneously an increase in the membership of the Youth Corps is aimed at in order to indoctrinate potential future members of the Party.
5. The conclusion of the 3-anti's and 5-anti's campaigns around October of this year¹ should be the signal for an intensified campaign by the Central Committee to purify membership. They are especially interested in purging any liberal and Nationalistic elements. The method will be by induced confessions, criticism and self-criticism, psychological pressure on erring members, and detailed survey of the membership of all new organizations. It is unlikely that this process will be completed by the end of this year, but the next stage, probably due for completion by the end of next year, will be the fortification of the internal strength of the Party by strict membership surveys and purges at the top level. Meanwhile, reliable members are being dispersed into the population by being sent to work in factories and schools.
 1. Comment. these campaigns were running themselves into the ground as early as April 1952.

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